

Inflatable Flotation Device Prohibition Amendment

Supplemental Report

Austin City Council

October 17th, 2013

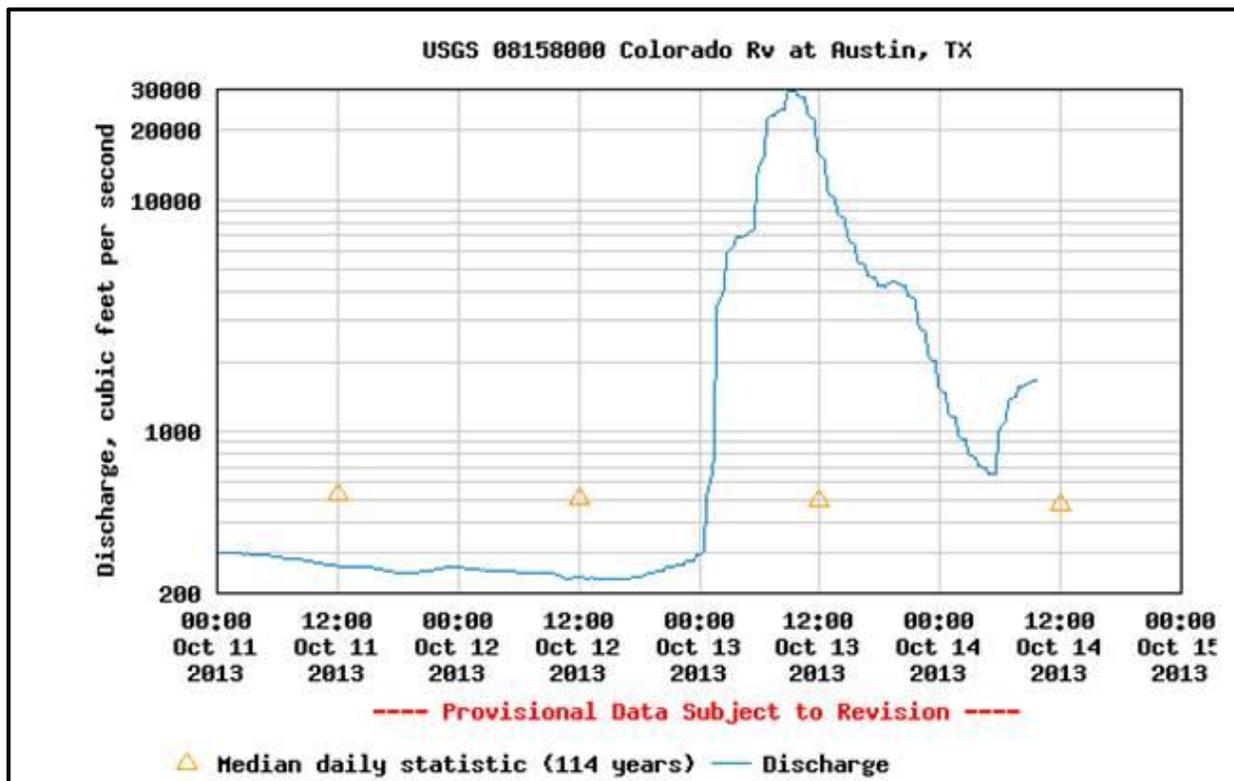
October 12th Rain Event:

The rain event on October 12th resulted in a rise in the river elevation of 30 feet in 12 hours¹.

Colorado River Flow

The Parks and Recreation Department provides this supplemental report to the Austin City Council to further illustrate the unstable conditions of the Colorado River below Longhorn Dam. On Saturday night October 12th, 2013 locally heavy rain triggered flooding of streets and neighborhoods. The LCRA released waters through Tom Miller Dam into Lady Bird Lake. Flood waters passed through Lady Bird Lake then the Longhorn Dam into the Colorado River. The information below and photos included in this supplemental report substantiate how quickly the river can transform and pose a risk to public safety.

The graph below illustrates the increase in the rate of flow in cubic feet per second (cfs) at the USGS gauge located at Hwy 183/Montopolis Bridge. The rate of flow accelerated from 290 cfs at midnight to 29,900 cfs at 9 a.m. The gauge monitors the flow in 15 minute increments. In one 15 minutes period between 6:30 and 6:45 a.m. the gauge registered a increase in flow of 6,300 cfs.

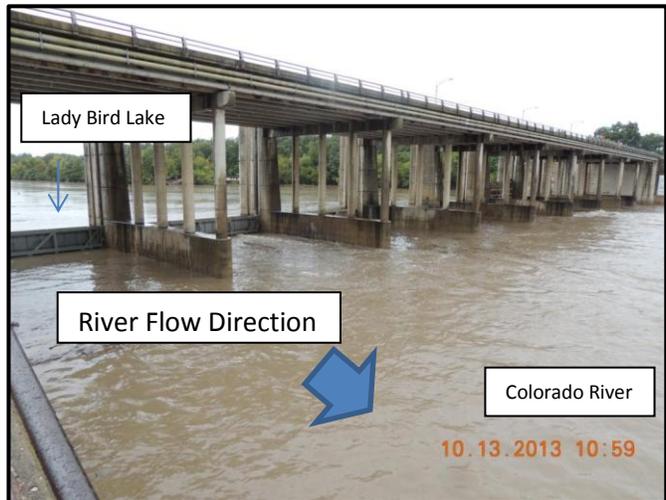


¹ The river height is measured at the USGS gauge located at Hwy 183/Montopolis Bridge

Photos of Colorado River after Rains

The rain event on October 12th resulted in a rise in the river elevation of 30 feet in 12 hours.

The following are a series of photographs taken between 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 13. At this time the river had already crested and was beginning to recede. The rate of flow at 11:30 a.m. was 22,500 cfs.



This photo on the left was taken directly below Longhorn Dam and illustrates the swift waters and currents generated by the releases from Longhorn Dam. Photo on the right depicts the rise of the Colorado River.



These photos show the debris and change in river geometry as flood waters move down the river.



The pictures above and below are of the area below the Hwy 183/Montopolis Bridge. Photos taken June 26, 2013 (BEFORE) reflect river height with an average low-flow of approximately 200 cfs. Pictures from October 13, 2013 (AFTER) rain event show the change in width of the channel as river rises.



Littering Prohibited Sign

COA Preserve Entrance Sign

